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case of big beedies and to Rs. 1–14–0 in the case of small beedies. The Labour Officer, Salem, intervened on 4th October 1956 and tried to effect a settlement with the managements. He also fixed up a conference of the beedi manufacturers, their contractors and the workers' representatives to explore the possibilities of arriving at a settlement among them. The satyagraha was called off on his advice. I am now given to understand that the beedi workers' demand for higher rates of wages has been conceded by most of the managements through the intervention of the Labour Officer, Salem. The Labour Officer's report and the memorandum of settlement are awaited.

III.—STATEMENT OF HON. MINISTER FOR FINANCE *RE* GRANT OF ENHANCED DEARNESS ALLOWANCE TO NON-GAZETTED GOVERNMENT SERVANTS.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Mr. Speaker, in answering interpellations in this House last Tuesday, I had indicated that the Government would soon take a decision on the immediate relief that may be rendered to non-Gazetted Government servants. The Committee of Officers appointed by the Government, has since submitted its report. The main recommendation of the Committee is to enhance the dearness allowance of all non-Gazetted Officers and of Gazetted Officers up to a pay limit of Rs. 300 by a flat rate of Rs. 5. In the new Madras State after the separation of Malabar, South Kanara and the Kollegal taluk, there will be 121,000 non-Gazetted Officers in the regular establishments, 37,400 work-charged establishments, i.e., employees whose cost is debited to the estimates for works, 6,400 menials—I am sorry to use that term—paid from contingency, 37,000 employees under the local boards, and 84,600 teachers paid out of educational grants, making a grand total of 286,400. The Government feel that any concession given to Government servants should also be extended to employees of local boards. The Government of India are now considering certain proposals for improving the service conditions of teachers and in anticipation of a favourable decision, this Government desire to extend the proposed relief to them also. The cost of the proposal as recommended by the Officers' Committee amounts to about Rs. 170 lakhs per year. The Government have decided to accept this recommendation in full.

The dearness allowance drawn by the lowest class of employees on salaries of Rs. 20 and below is Rs. 18 and that of employees on salaries exceeding Rs. 20 and below Rs. 40 is Rs. 19. The present enhancement in the dearness allowance will raise the dearness allowance of these categories to Rs. 23 and 24 respectively. The Government have decided that the minimum of the dearness allowance for any regular employee should not be less than Rs. 25. This means that about 37,800 employees, mostly peons, menials and work-charged establishments, will get a further enhancement of Rs. 2 in their dearness allowance and about 98,800 employees

made up largely of policemen, school teachers, attenders and other low-paid hands will get a further enhancement of Re. 1 in their dearness allowance. The cost of this additional concession, which is in excess of the Committee's recommendation, is estimated to be about Rs. 20 lakhs, raising the total cost to about Rs. 190 lakhs. The enhancement will take effect on the salary earned in November 1956 and drawn on 1st December 1956. The cost during the current year will therefore be about Rs. 63 lakhs. This concession will not apply to employees who have been allotted to the Madras State from the Travancore-Cochin State as and from 1st November 1956. Their case will have to be considered separately especially in view of the recent increase in their emoluments made by the Travancore-Cochin Government.

As far as village officers are concerned, the Committee have recommended that their case should be considered separately and therefore they are not also included in this announcement.

Hon. Members will recollect that the budget as framed for the current year, anticipated a deficit of Rs. 166 lakhs even after taking credit for certain measures of additional taxation. Some of these new taxation measures have not yet been implemented and with the various new development services introduced during the course of the year, the deficit for the year will be much larger than anticipated. We have been running into substantial revenue deficits during the last few years though no doubt in our anxiety to implement an ambitious plan. The House would therefore appreciate that the Government has already gone beyond their existing resources and any further improvement in the conditions of service of Government servants can be effected only if our resources are augmented substantially through the recommendations of the Finance Commission or otherwise.

I am happy to announce further that since the Cabinet gave its approval to the statement which I have just made, a telegraphic communication has been received from the Government of India giving its concurrence to the proposed increased emoluments to the teachers. (Applause.)

9-31 a.m. **SRI M. KALYANASUNDARAM** : கனம் சபாநாயகர் அவர்களே, கனம் நிதி மந்திரி அவர்கள் வாசித்த அறிக்கையை சர்க்கார் உத்யோகஸ்தர்கள் எப்படி வரவேற்பார்களோ அதைப்பற்றி என்னால் ஒன்றும் சொல்ல முடியாது. அது எப்படி இருந்தாலும் கடைநிலை சிப்பந்திகள் என்று சொல்லக் கூடியவர்கள் இதை ஒரு அளவுக்கு வரவேற்பார்கள் என்றுதான் நான் கருதுகிறேன். குறைந்த பட்ச பஞ்சப்படி ரூ. 25 என்று இருப்பது ரொம்பவும் வரவேற்கத் தக்க விஷயம்தான். அதில் எந்த வித்யாசமும் இல்லாமல் எல்லோருக்குமே ஒரே மாதிரியாக அதாவது ரூ. 7 என்று பஞ்சப்படியை உயர்த்தி இருந்தால் ஓரளவிற்கு வரவேற்க கூடியதாக இருந்திருக்கும். பத்து வருஷங்களுக்குப் பிறகு இப்பொழுதாவது இந்த அளவுக்கு சர்க்கார் உதவிசெய்ய முன் வந்ததற்கு அவர்களை பாராட்டலாமென்று நினைத்தால், கொடுக்கப்படும் தொகை

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சொற்பமாக இருப்பதால் தயங்குகிறேன். இப்பொழுது இருக்கும் விலைவாசிகளை கவனித்தால் இந்த ஐந்து ரூபாய் எந்த அளவிற்கு உதவியாக இருக்கும் என்பதுதான் தெரியவில்லை. ஆனால் கனம் நிதி மந்திரி அவர்களும் சர்க்காருடைய கஷ்டத்தை எடுத்துச் சொல்லி விட்டார். இருந்தாலும் இவ்வளவு துரிதமாக ஒரு முடிவுக்கு வந்ததற்கு கனம் நிதி மந்திரி அவர்களையும் நிதி இலாகாவையும் பாராட்டுகிறேன்.

இன்னொரு முக்கியமான விஷயம், அதையும் கவனிக்க வேண்டும். இந்தச் சலுகை எந்தத் தேதியிலிருந்து அமுலுக்கு வரப்போகிறது என்பதையும் அறிவிக்க வேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். (பலர் குறுக்கிடுதல்) இந்த வருஷ முதலிலிருந்தாவது இதை அமுலுக்குக் கொண்டுவரவேண்டும் என்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன். அதாவது இநத வருஷம் ஜனவரி முதலிலிருந்தே இது அமுலுக்கு வந்ததாகக் கருதப்பட வேண்டும். இதையும் சர்க்கார் ஆலோசனை பண்ணவேண்டும்.

சமீபத்தில் சர்க்கார் இன்னொரு சலுகையையும் வெளியிட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். அதாவது தீபாவளி போன்ற பண்டிகைகளுக்கு ஒரு மாத சம்பளமோ அல்லது ரூ. 75யோ அதில் எது குறைவாக இருக்கிறதோ அந்தத் தொகையை முன் பணமாகக் கொடுத்துவிட்டு அதை நான்கு தவணைகளில் வசூல் செய்துகொள்வதாக ஒரு அறிக்கையை சர்க்கார் வெளியிட்டிருக்கிறார்கள். இதையும் நாங்கள் வரவேற்கிறோம். இந்தச் சலுகையை மற்ற சிப்பந்திகளுக்கும் அதாவது ஸ்தலஸ்தாபன சிப்பந்திகளாகிய முனிசிபாலிட்டி, ஜில்லா போர்டு, பஞ்சாயத்து போர்டு கீழ் வேலை செய்யும் உத்தியோகஸ்தர்களுக்கும் கொடுக்கவேண்டும். இவைகளைப்பற்றி சர்க்கார் ஆலோசனை செய்து தக்க நடவடிக்கை எடுக்க வேண்டுமென்று கேட்டுக் கொள்ளுகிறேன்.

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM : Sir, when the Government took this decision, they never expected that the Opposition parties particularly the Communist Party would endorse our decisions. Whatever might have been our decisions, we have absolutely no doubt that they would say that they are not satisfied and something more should have been given because otherwise they would not have any point for agitation and create discontent amongst the Non-Gazetted Officers. Therefore, I would have been disappointed if such a statement had not been made by a Member of the Communist Party and I am glad that he has stood up to my expectations (*Cheers*). 9-35 a.m.

Sir, as everybody will agree, we have gone to the utmost limit within the resources available and as already been indicated in the Report itself, any further relief will have to await the Report by the Finance Commission which, it is hoped, will be submitted within a few months. Even now, I have no doubt, we will be in financial difficulties but just to show that we are in full sympathy with the demand of the Non-Gazetted Officers, we have given this relief and I hope it will be taken in that spirit. Whatever be the attitude of the Communist Party, I have absolutely no doubt that the Non-Gazetted Officers and other employees of the Government will be more than satisfied and will welcome the gesture which the Government have made.